



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

SANTOKI et al

Atty. Ref.: 1417-366

Serial No. 09/976,296

Group: 1773

Filed: October 15, 2001

Examiner: Rickman, Holly C.

Handwritten signature/initials

For: MAGNETIC RECORDING MEDIUM AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THE SAME

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April 4, 2003

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

RESPONSE

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Responsive to the Official Action of March 17, 2003, the requirement for restriction presented in it, applicants elect the subject matter of Group I, namely claims 1-5, 8 and 9. This response is made with traverse to the extent the non-elected method claims 6 and 7 may be rejoined once the elected product claims are in condition for allowance.

Please examine the elected claims taking into account the Information Disclosure Statement filed May 7, 2002. An examination on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By: _____

Handwritten signature of Arthur R. Crawford

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